

28 JAN 1966

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

THROUGH: Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT: CIA Project S-1752, "The Impact of Intensified Air Attacks Against Economic Targets in North Vietnam"

1. This memorandum is to inform you of the production of a significant intelligence report, a copy of which is attached, and to obtain your approval to the proposed distribution suggested in paragraph 2.
2. This report was prepared in response to a request by Mr. Walt Rostow, Counsellor of the Department of State, that the Agency evaluate the impact of an escalated air attack against North Vietnam. In addition to evaluating the economic and social effects, Mr. Rostow asked that the Agency evaluate the effect of the attack on North Vietnam's ability and willingness to continue the war in South Vietnam.
3. The attached report finds that an escalated air offensive against almost all the major economic targets in North Vietnam would not substantially affect its ability to supply the Communist forces in South Vietnam, or compel the regime to enter into peace negotiations.
4. The report has been reviewed by some members of the Board of National Estimates who are in general agreement with its conclusions.
5. Since this report is concerned with the subject of current sensitive policy questions, I recommend that its distribution outside the Agency be quite restrained. If you agree and do not wish to transmit the report over your signature, I propose to transmit the report only to the Secretary of Defense, Mr. Rostow, Mr. McGeorge Bundy, and to Mr. Chester Cooper, member of the White House Staff.

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Enclosure: DD/I
 CIA Project S-1752

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cc: O/DCIA - DCI A\OFF
 Director, Directorate of Intelligence

for WILLIAM B. McCALL, JR. 25X1A
 Director
 Research and Reports

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